

**REMARKS**

**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 4 – 6, 8 – 11 and 14 are pending in the subject application.

Claims 8 – 11 are allowed.

Claims 4 – 6 and 14 are rejected.

In the current response:

Claim 4 – 6 and 14 are canceled.

No new matter is entered.

**II. The 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) Claim Rejections**

Claim 4 – 6 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a), as being unpatentable over the reference of Staack Reis Machado et al. (EP 1122259 A2) in view of Ohmoto et al. (Shoyakugaku Zasshi (1974), 28(1), pages 1-6, abstract only).

In order to advance prosecution of the application, Applicants have canceled claims 4 – 6 and 14 without prejudice.

**III. Allowable Subject Matter**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for holding that Claims 8 - 11 to be unobvious over the prior art of record and that Claims 8 - 11 are allowed.

**IV. Conclusion**

In view of the amendments set forth herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

In the event that any fee is deemed due for this Response, the commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Remark to Deposit Account No. 502869.

Serial No. 10/538,463

Should the Examiner believe that further discussion of any remaining issue would advance the prosecution, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 

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